

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Vicksburg District
www.mvk.usace.army.mil

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Corps Motor Vessel to Honor Vicksburg Dredge Master

Vicksburg, Miss... The Vicksburg District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will commission a new dredge tender in March. The Motor Vessel Sanderford is named after Captain W. A. Sanderford, who epitomized the unique skills, strength of character and devotion to duty shown by many who actually performed the work on our waterways.

W.A." enlisted in the Marines in 1945 at the age of 17 and served on active duty until 1948. He first worked for the Vicksburg District in 1949 as a seasonal deckhand on the steam towboat Mateur and achieved permanent employment status as a deckhand and later a pilot aboard the Lipscomb.

He transferred to the Dredge Jadwin as pilot in 1971 and was promoted to master of the Dredge Jadwin in 1982. He served as master of the Jadwin until his retirement in 1993.

The Sanderford will be commissioned in a ceremony on March 15 at 11:00 a.m. at the Corps landing at the Vicksburg Port.

Two Vicksburg District vessels are scheduled to be replaced in the next 2 years. The Sanderford will replace the MV Wailes and next year the MV Lipscomb will be replaced by the MV William James after a half century of service.

The William E. James, the first Corps vessel ever named for an African-American wage grade employee, honors James, a cook on the Lipscomb from 1979 until his drowning death in 2003.

-30-

For more information or interviews, contact Frank Worley, Deputy, Public Affairs, (601) 631-5053, or reply to this e-mail.

Send comments on the quality of our news products, or request information on other Corps topics, by e-mailing CEMVK-PA@usace.army.mil